

CLAIMS

1. A method for processing a voice call establishment request (5-0) from an calling terminal (A) to a called terminal (B), the method comprising:
detecting the call establishment request (5-0);
5 in response to said detecting, alerting (3-4; 5-6) the called terminal (B); and
setting up a two-way connection (5-14; 5-24 ... 5-28) between the calling terminal (A) and the called terminal (B);
characterized by
10 determining (3-10; 3-14; 5-8) that a two-way voice call between the calling terminal (A) and the called terminal (B) is not allowed;
receiving silent messages (5-14; 5-24) via a user interface (UI) of said called terminal (B) and/or calling terminal (A) and conveying (5-14; 5-26 ... 5-28) information based on said silent messages to the calling terminal (A)
15 and/or called terminal (B), respectively.
2. A method according to claim 1, characterized in that said determining is based on detecting a predetermined input (3-10, 5-8) via the user interface (UI) of the called terminal (B) after said alerting.
3. A method according to claim 1, characterized in that said determining is based on detecting (3-14) a predetermined profile (PR, 80) associated with the called terminal (B), the profile being set prior to said alerting.
4. A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the two-way connection is or comprises a chat connection (5-14).
5. A method according to claim 1, characterized in that said
25 conveying comprises converting (5-26) said silent messages to speech.
6. A method according to claim 1, characterized in that said converting comprises text-to-speech synthesis.
7. A method according to claim 1, characterized in that said
30 converting comprises receiving an indication of one (64) of a plurality of predetermined voice messages (64).
8. A method according to claim 1, characterized in that said

plurality of predetermined voice messages is dimensioned such that any predetermined voice message is selectable without moving fingers on the user interface (UI, 61-63).

5 9. A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the determining step is carried out by a network element (MS).

10 10. A method according to claim 5, characterized in that the converting step is carried out by a network element (MS).

11. An apparatus (MS, MS') for processing a voice call establishment request (5-0) from an calling terminal (A) to a called terminal (B), the called terminal comprising alerting means for alerting a user and means for setting up a two-way connection (5-14; 5-24 ... 5-28) between the calling terminal (A) and the called terminal (B);

the apparatus (MS, MS') comprising means for detecting the call establishment request (5-0); and

15 characterized by

means for determining (3-10; 3-14; 5-8) that a two-way voice call between the calling terminal (A) and the called terminal (B) is not allowed;

means for receiving silent messages (5-14; 5-24) via the called terminal's user interface (UI); and

20 means for conveying (5-14; 5-26 ... 5-28) information based on said silent messages to the calling terminal (A).

12. An apparatus according to claim 11, characterized in that the apparatus (MS) is located in a network element.

25 13. An apparatus according to claim 11, characterized in that the apparatus (MS') is located in the called terminal (B, 102).